

the

KALIFORNSKI

Since 1979

NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

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(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS, & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

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(408) 724-2900

— NOTICE —

*DUES ARE DUE AND PAYABLE
JANUARY 1ST OF EACH YEAR.*

*YOU ARE DELINQUENT AFTER 45 DAYS
AND
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If you have not yet paid your YACO dues,
please do so promptly in order to
continue receiving KALIFORNSKI
and notices of special YACO events.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

It was towards the end of ex-President Jerry Gospodnetich's term in 1988 that the membership amended YACO's By-Laws to create a Board of Trustees. Each year we have had a great deal of difficulty in recruiting people to serve as officers. Now, we simply elect a Board of Trustees at our Annual Meetings and they in turn see to it that YACO has officers.

The 1990 Trustees elected in December, 1989, made it clear to the membership at the Annual Meeting that they would see to it that there would be in 1990:

- 1) a dinner in February
- 2) a picnic in July
- 3) a Christmas Party in December

These are the only events that the Trustees, before their election, agreed to do. This is not to say that there can not be more events. All that is necessary is for members to come forward and volunteer to put on an event. The same would hold true for a film, guest speaker, slide presentation, etc.

To sum it up: We will have, during 1990, only 3 dinner socials and a few programs, if no one comes forward to volunteer to put on the additional events. We, the Trustees, have agreed before we were elected to put on the above listed events. Hopefully, there will be YACO members who will volunteer to put on other events.

— 1990 Board of Trustees

COMMITTEES:

Ella Korach, Dessert	724-5532
Jo Puhera, Sunshine	724-8930
Mary Basich, Bake Sale	724-3637
Ann Cernokus, Decorating	724-5179

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Remember to listen to the YUGOSLAV RADIO HOUR every Sunday at 9:35 a.m. on radio station KOMY, 1340 on the dial.

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Potpourri

BABE BRAUTOVICH HILL

Well, it looks like I will be with you another year as president. (Have you ever felt like you zipped when you should have zagged, or where were you when the brains were passed out??) If we have a good board, which we have, I'm sure we will have another good year... GOOD THOUGHTS & POSITIVE ENERGIES: EMME COL-ENDICH, ANN BOPP, SOPHIA MARICH, MARTIN GRIZICH, MILLIE ZANKI. Think good thoughts and everything will come up roses.... To brighten your thoughts here is a little bit of hospital humor: Artery = the study of fine paintings; colic = sheep dog; grippe = suitcase; hangnail = coat hook; medical staff = doctor's cane; morbid = higher offer; nitrate = lower than day rate. Oh well, so much for humor.... I sure hope that everyone is looking forward to the new decade. 1990 promises to be better than the last, at least better than the last quarter anyway. Ron says he tells LOMA PRIETA, DON'T YOU DO THAT AGAIN! (please). I sure hope it helps.... Did I tell you that I renamed our Schnauser (Keeper) to "Richter"? If she sits and shakes it's less than 3.0. If she goes under the bed, I go with her. Then we both shake! I remember telling Ron that I needed a vacuum, but we didn't have any electricity. So I said, "I wonder if Shirley has electricity. I could borrow her vacuum." Sometimes I get a little

screwed up. Dum dee dum dum.... Sretan Rodendan to all Januery-ites:

Ann Bernard, San Jose
John Biskup, Watsonville

.... I will let you know all about the Bakalar Dinner, and keep your ears open to all the news on this year's July Picnic and the "Opportunity Ticket." The plans I hear about sure sound like a very good time is in store for all of us. Start telling your friends and neighbors.... I'll get back to you later. I must run for now. A parting shot for Steve Zalac. He has been doing all the Master of Ceremonies for me and I sure do appreciate it. Thanks a million, Steve.

Toodle...ooo.

— NOTICE — TRIP TO YUGOSLAVIA

Elsie (Dobrich) Matt, instructor at the California History Center of DeAnza College, where she teaches a course entitled YUGOSLAVS OF CALIFORNIA, will be leading her second tour to Yugoslavia.

DEPARTURE: MAY 24 - JUNE 8, 1990.

ITINERARY: 16 days — first class hotels — Zagreb, Sarajevo, Dubrovnik, boat trip to the islands of Korcula and Brac, Split, Zadar, Trogir, Plitvice, Opatija, Pula, Lipice and Lake Bled.

RATES: \$1,920, based on 15 people and will be subject to change for each additional 5 people going.

For further information contact Elsie Matt at (408) 395-0645.

FROM THE EDITORS —

C ----- M ---

I was stopped on the street this morning by a reporter from the local paper, who mentioned that she had been surprised not to have seen Jan and me at the C ----- M --- held in the S -. Patrick's C ----- gym last Sunday. The R-P was going to do an "after the event" report on "it" so I thought perhaps I'd mention it, too. But then it hit me — I CAN'T! Rules of YACO have been previously interpreted to prohibit inclusion of anything of a religious or political nature. So, although religious artifacts and murals can be included if presented as a part of the Yugoslav culture, they cannot be if presented as part of religious activity. Same with political art or writings. That's fine and I have no problem with that. HOWEVER, that means I can't tell you anything about the recent C ----- (not going to mention the Yugoslav political region) M --- (nor the religious activity). But I hear it was successful and more are planned. Keep an eye and ear for more such events in the future. Just don't look here, in the KALIFORNSKI.

Obviously I'm tired. Does anyone else want to take over as Editor? Purely a volunteer position to put this publication together — deadlines, typesetting, paste-up, graphics? Give Dale a call.

By the way — I do have to admit that, when sending in your membership renewals, many of you made very supportive and favorable comments regarding your enjoyment of the KALIFORNSKI. Thanks.

— Dale and Jan

Pjesme iz Starog kraja

Blijedi mjesec

1. Blijedi mjesec zagrljao zvijezdu Danicu,
a ja mrsim tvoju zlatnu kosicu.
Samo reci mi, da l' me ljubiš ti,
da živimo ko svi sretni, presretni.
Samo reci mi, da l' me ljubiš ti,
da živimo ko svi sretni, presretni.
Vesla ćemo ostaviti: ne trebaju nam,
mi ćemo se zagrliti, čun će plovit sam.
On će tada sam kući ploviti:
tjerat će ga tiki morski valovi.
Sve će zvjezdice s neba gledati
i zavidjet, dušo, našoj ljubavi.

2. Cu a ja mrsim tvoju zlatnu kosicu
Si cu Sa mo re ci mi
dal' me lju biš ti da ži
vi mo kō svi sre tni pre sret ni

Chords: G, D, D7, G, C, D, G, D7, C, D, D7, G

Blijedi mjesec

Blijedi mjesec zagrljao zvijezdu Danicu,
a ja mrsim tvoju zlatnu kosicu.
Samo reci mi, da l' me ljubiš ti,
da živimo ko svi sretni, presretni.

Samo reci mi, da l' me ljubiš ti,
da živimo ko svi sretni, presretni.
Vesla ćemo ostaviti: ne trebaju nam,
mi ćemo se zagrliti, čun će plovit sam.
On će tada sam kući ploviti:
tjerat će ga tiki morski valovi.
Sve će zvjezdice s neba gledati
i zavidjet, dušo, našoj ljubavi.

The Pale Moon

The pale moon has embraced the Morning
Star above,
And I fondle your fine golden locks of hair.
Oh say to me, please, whether you love me
And that we will live so happy, happily.

Oh say to me, please, whether you love me
And that we will live so happy, happily.

We will leave the oars, we don't need them
now,

Then we'll embrace, the boat will set its prow.
It will find its way back all alone:
The quiet lapping waves will push it home.
All the stars will look down from above
And envy, darling, our precious love.

BY BORA DJORDJEVIĆ

ZUKO DŽUMHUR

A talk with the well-known Yugoslav artist, cartoonist and travel writer.

Zuko Džumhur is both painter and writer, director and scenographer, dreamer and fighter for artists' rights, reporter, tourist publicist and wanderer. But to those who eagerly await every Sunday to see his latest vision of world events and political life, he is first and foremost a political cartoonist. For over thirty years, this native of Herzegovina has been drawing and writing about momentous and ticklish themes.

Of all professions connected with journalism, the cartoonist's seems the freest. As a rule, he speaks not in the name of his paper but in his own name, and never publishes a cartoon anonymously.

Džumhur's cartoons with their distinctive graphic style, are remarkable for the observation of detail and feeling for the satirical element in contemporary events. While a student of the Belgrade Art Academy (he studied under the eminent Yugoslav painters Petar Dobrović and Milo Milunović), he attracted attention with his unusual talent for graphic art, a genre to which he has remained faithful, combining drawings with words in his cartoons and travellogues.

Zuko never writes his texts at the typewriter, but always by hand, with calligraphic care. Sometimes he rewrites them as many as seven times, taking pleasure in the act of writing as well as composing. He complains that children today are not taught penmanship, as in the old days. In his opinion, to write illegibly is an act of rudeness.

He is the author of several travel books ("Letter from Spain" and "Letter from the Bosphorus"), and of a TV documentary series on the ancient towns of Bosnia-Herzegovina, in which he himself appeared as the guide. What prompted him to write this series was the desire to record the "Last phase in the transformation of a world which has lasted a very long time and is now disappearing before our very eyes".

Zuko drives an old "Spaček" (a Yugoslav assembled small Renault), but not out of financial necessity nor meanness. The "Spaček" is not a car, it's a philosophy, he

says. He claims that the trip from Belgrade to Dubrovnik (about 600 km.) takes him a week in this vehicle.

"I set out from Belgrade and I have to stop in Tuzla to see the painter Ismet Mujezinović.

Then again I have to break by journey in Sarajevo, where I have friends, and then in Konjic — I can't bypass the friends there. Then I must stop a bit at Počitelj, and drop in on my family in Mostar, so that a week has passed before I get to Dubrovnik. But what's the hurry? These days everybody seems to be dashing off somewhere . . ."

Zuko does not admit that he is first and foremost a cartoonist, a journalist with a felt-tipped pen. He puts it this way:

"It may sound big-headed, conceited . . . but when I walk along the street, in my daily life, I behave like the complete man. I am both painter and poet, and a man of the theatre and cinema. I don't look on life through just one medium in which I am going to express myself . . ."



Another aspect of Zuko's life is his tireless activity agitating for more artist's studios, exhibition premises, and generally better conditions of life for Yugoslav artists. He has been one of the initiators and made valuable contributions in reviving the old quarters of towns, preserving old streets, such as the Skadarlija section of Belgrade, and the old town of Počitelj on the River Neretva near Mostar.

"We had a hard task convincing the city fathers of the need to restore Skadarlija", he recalls. "I imagined that the older generation of Belgrade people would frequent the place, to enjoy the old city songs, but Skadarlija has become a gathering place for the young people of Belgrade. The same thing has happened in the Baščaršija (bazaar) in Sarajevo."

Zuko is familiar with the trials and tribulations of the newspaperman's life: the editor's anxiety whether his material will arrive on time, with the hungry presses waiting to swallow the latest edition. His best friends are journalists, reporters who travel around, searching for the truth, and often die young...

"A journalist's life is certainly strenuous and hazardous. How many friends I've seen carried off in the prime of life, the victims of heart attacks, mental breakdowns, traffic accidents... The subject we write least about is our own profession. This is something I feel deeply about because I have been a member of this profession for a full thirty years now."

How many times has Džumhur, with his penetrating cartoons, revealed to us the dilemmas of our time and society? When one tells him that he seems to have great sympathy for the failings of his fellow men, he does not deny it:

"As long as we live we are bound to have fellow-feelings with our contemporaries. Selfishness, cruelty, ruthlessness towards one's fellows, is repulsive. People are inclined to forget that life is short, that man is only human."

In recent years, Džumhur has also found time to paint.

"I'm a bit strange, perhaps", he explains, "but I come more and more to the conclusion that the most sincere painting is by children" and people of mature years. I believe this to be the secret of the great contemporary painter Chagall, who in his old age paints the modern world seen through the curious eyes of a child. It seems to me that the so-called years of maturity are the most fruitful for poetic painting."

What prompts this restless spirit in him? Why does he engage in so many fields, work and travel ceaselessly?

"When a man travels he is always seeking himself. After seeing different landscapes and people, he can return to his own room and sum up his experiences, reaching fresh conclusions about people, their destinies, poetry, sorrow, human life..."

His writings about the East have met with great interest among the reading public, displaying as they do all Džumhur's understanding for people, their way of life and customs...

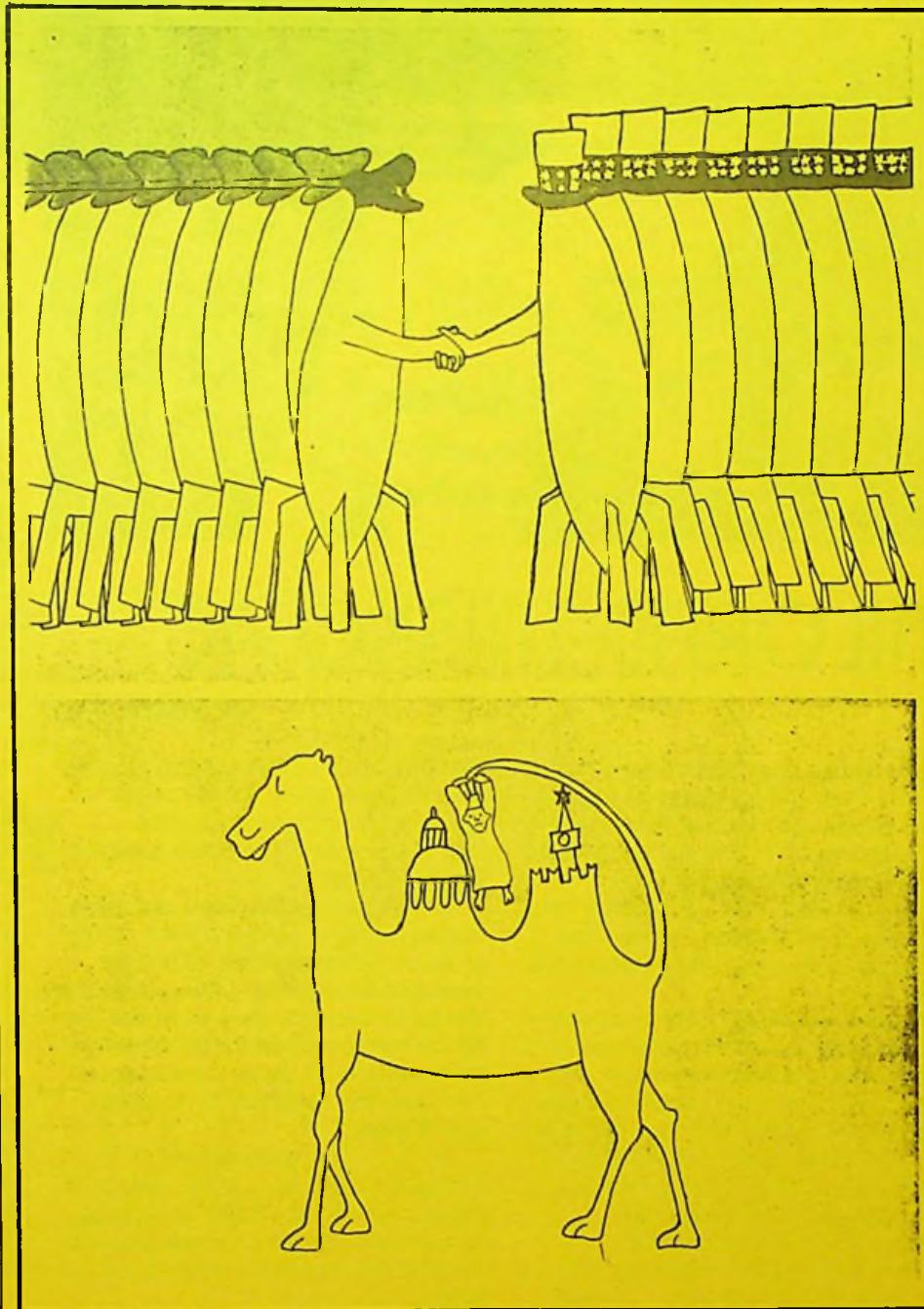
What is his attitude towards his own work?

"I have never played around with any job I have undertaken", he comments. "My work is my daily bread, and I respect it. If I didn't work regularly, I should be very unhappy — I don't know how I'd survive spiritually without it. I shudder to think of it. It is a great blessing

in life to do work that you love, and even more so to make a reasonable living from work that you enjoy.

"Maybe that daily bread doesn't always come easily, but after all, it doesn't do any good to overeat. I find great joy in life, in every day and night. There is much good and much evil in the world, much that is beautiful and a lot that is ugly, but so it has always been and will always be, till the end of time. Life is not just paradise or hell. Since it's the only one we've got, why shouldn't we love it?"

On the basis of Zuko Džumhur's cartoons, the young film director Vera Vlajić-Janevska created the animated cartoon film "In the Avenue of Great Men and Great Events" which took second prize at last year's short and documentary film festival in Belgrade.





In addition to a highly successful dancing career, Milorad Mišković is a distinguished choreographer, winning last year's UNESCO award for choreography.

sounds of nature," he thinks. "True, this new music is still feeling its way, and is sometimes even repulsive and unbearable, but one day it will seem normal. But what is most important is that the art of ballet should make use of understandable symbols, clear even to a child."

Besides being an outstanding performer, Milorad Mišković is a gifted teacher and choreographer. In this latter capacity his work has been acclaimed in the Verona Arena, at La Scala, the San Carlo in Naples, in Genoa, Florence, Bologna, Venice and who knows how many other theatres all over the world.

But despite the demand for his services abroad, Milorad Mišković cannot stay long away from his native land:

"I have travelled across so many countries and continents, but more and more I seek true peace of mind in my parents' home in Belgrade. I always come here when I'm summoning up strength for a new work. I shall have no peace until I manage to show all the wealth of dance hidden away in Yugoslavia, which abounds in striking and symbolic dances from the ancient past down to the epic Partisan days," says Mišković.

"It's a well-known fact that Yugoslavia has a lot of ballet talent. Even before the Second World War there were some outstanding dancers. But this talent has to be discovered. It can be found all over — in towns and villages. Sad to say, many talented people pass unnoticed. It is the task of the ballet schools and Musical Youth Organization to ensure that this is no so."

We asked Milorad Mišković where the greatest dancers were trained today.

"In the major ballet centres, above all Moscow and Leningrad," he answered, "although there are wonderful teachers in New York and Paris, whose work is based on the principles of Russian ballet technique."

Speaking of his own concepts of ballet, he says:

"I have always taken Russian ballet technique as the basis, as a kind of arithmetic and geometric logic. But I have not adopted the old Russian way of interpreting roles: exaggeration in expression and sensibility. Nor did I adopt the famous English understatement, nor the French excessive logic. My artistic credo is sincerity, directness and above all, simplicity."

Milorad Mišković received last year's UNESCO award for choreography.

MILORAD MIŠKOVIĆ

BY VINKO ŠALE

He arrived one September day in 1947 in Paris, without money or luggage. All he brought with him was talent and the will to succeed. With this and the guidance of the famous ballet teacher Olga Preobrazhenskaya it did not take him long to become a great dancer, whose name can be found in every ballet encyclopaedia in the world.

Mišković has danced sixty major roles and performed in over sixty countries of Europe, Asia, and North and South America. With the ballet troupes of Serge Diaghilev and Roland Petit, as a soloist and partner of ballet "stars," Milorad Mišković gained many admirers around the world. He has danced virtually everything: Orpheus, the Faun, Hercules and Prometheus from Greek mythology, Don Juan, legendary princes and — in modern ballets — workers, soldiers and

cosmonauts. One of his greatest triumphs was in Verona, where 200,000 people applauded his performances in the *Nutcracker Suite* and the ballet section of the opera *Faust*.

"I have visited India, China and Japan, studied history in general and the history of art, as well as literature, to find the inspiration for my roles. I have played roles that go far back into the past as well as figures from the contemporary world. At the same time I'm always thinking about new roles, the characters of the future," says Mišković.

In his opinion, contemporary art is turning more and more to the essence of nature, man and life. Ballets increasingly throw light on human problems, people's everyday preoccupations, troubles and hopes. "Music, too, more and more reflects the

A Delegation of American Mayors in Zagreb

In mid-November a delegation of American mayors arrived in Zagreb, including Ernest Dutch Moriel, president of the Conference of United States Mayors and mayor of New Orleans, Lee Alexander, mayor of Syracuse, Theodore D. Mason, mayor of Newton, Don Ericson, mayor of Cheyenne, and Kathryn Kretschmer-Weyland, of the Conference of United States Mayors. The esteemed guests had a series of meetings and conversations in the City Assembly, they visited Exportdrvo, a major Yugoslav furniture company exporting to the American market. They spent ten days touring Yugoslav cities including Belgrade, Sarajevo, Dubrovnik, Mostar and Zaječar.

Yugoslav Aid to Columbia

The grim tragedy that has been gripping Columbia ever since the volcanic eruption took its toll of more than twenty thousand lives has been followed with attention and commiseration in Yugoslavia. The Federal Executive Council voted on sending \$ 200.00 — worth of aid to the victims. Of this, \$ 30.000 — will be in medicines and medical instrumentation, and the rest of the \$ 170.000 — will be in economic aid. The Yugoslav Red Cross has sent off a shipment of blood plasma, anti-tetanus serum and medicine worth about two million dinars.

The Swedes Are Interested in the Yugo

One of the oldest and largest Swedish automobile sales companies, Hans Osterman AB, is interested in buying the thrifty Yugoslav car, the Yugo. They heard about it through the American advertising campaign. Hans Osterman AB feels that the Yugo will meet the strict Swedish standards for automobiles, and is interested in marketing the car throughout Scandinavia.

A Church Festivity in Herceg-Novi

A ceremony was recently held in Herceg-Novi for declaring the ordainment Leopold Mandic, a Catholic priest born in this Montenegrin town in the last century, as a saint.

The Vatican ordained Leopold Mandic a saint in 1983, only 40 years after his death, an unusually short period for canonization in ecclesiastical practice. The ceremony for Mandic's canonization was planned for last year, but delayed until this year to await the restoration of the Church of St. Jerome in Herceg-Novi, where Mandic was baptised. The church was badly damaged in the catastrophic earthquake of 1979, but it has been successfully restored.

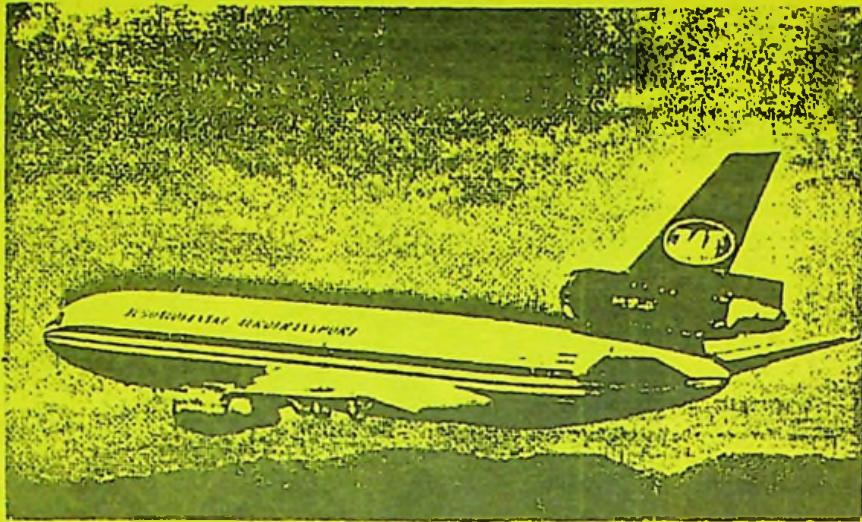
The church festivities were attended in Herceg-Novi by the Ambassador from the Vatican to Belgrade, Apostolic Delegate Francesco Colasino, Archbishop Zagreb Cardinal Franjo Kuharic, a number of bishops from Yugoslavia, and representatives of the Orthodox church and Moslem community of the faithful in Montenegro. Kotor Bishop Ivo Gugić and Vice President of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro Dr. Božidar Tadić spoke at the luncheon.



»I feel that we, the descendants of emigrants, are obliged to do more than merely uphold cultural ties. We ought to establish business connections, and help our country in this way«, as our guest Frane Cizmic told us, owner of a small factory of electric motors in Montevideo, Uruguay. He visited Yugoslavia this fall in order to establish business contacts with several Yugoslav companies.

»My Father Taught Me to Love All That is Mine«

When Frane Cizmic starts to speak, it seems as if he was born somewhere in Dalmatia, and not off in distant Montevideo, in South America, from where he came in a short visit. When asked how he has kept up his knowledge of Croatian, he explained »I was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, but my father, Ivan Ćizmić, a Dalmatian from Zadvarje, brought all of us children up speaking Croatian in the house, and he taught all of us to love what is ours. My mother Kate, nee Stanić, Dalmatian, used to always talk as if we were right here, at home. And I held onto it all...« Frane Ćizmić has a small factory of electric motors in Montevideo. He used his visit to the Old Country to establish business contacts with Rade Končar in Zagreb, and a few other companies in Ljubljana and elsewhere. We asked him what led him to contract for work so far from Uruguay? »To be perfectly frank,« Ćizmić admitted, »There are nostalgic reasons for it. And besides, I feel that we, descendants of the sons of this country, scattered all over the world, owe it, in a way, to our ancestral home, to help in this way as well, not just when some catastrophe comes up. I have been in Yugoslavia before, in 1968 and 1972, and I have seen how much progress this country has made. But from what I see now, the post-war development has reached a stalemate, it is in crisis. We, the children of emigrants, must help our Old Country when it is in trouble. One way to help is through business contacts of this kind with Yugoslavia. I can say from experience that the second and third generation of emigrants in Uruguay want to know how things are going here, and young people ask more and more, »Where was my grandfather from, who am I?« Next time I plan to bring my children along with me. I have three of them...«



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JOIN US TODAY

YACO was established in 1979 as a non-profit club without political or religious ties for the sole purpose of bringing together Yugoslavs and other interested persons to make known and to preserve our Slavic heritage. We are proud that among our membership we have families and individuals whose roots represent each region of present-day Yugoslavia, as well as non-slavic members who support the club's goals.

A year-around series of programs and events has proven an enjoyable way for YACO to provide its focus on Slavic heritage. Such activities include picnics, lectures and slide presentations on Yugoslavia and its historic culture, plus potluck and sit-down dinners. We also publish a monthly newsletter, THE KALIFORNSKI, full of interesting articles, recipes, and news of our area's Yugoslav community.

Our meetings (the first Sunday of each month) may include a potluck, special dinner, films, dancing, and raffles, plus we hold an annual July barbecue.

Won't you accept our invitation to join us? We're sure you'll soon find YACO to be one of your favorite clubs.

Our dues are as follows:

Single membership \$12
Family membership \$18

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Husband: _____

Wife: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Interests: _____

Yugoslav Background: _____

Children under 18 included in Family Membership:

ATTENTION:

THE KALIFORNSKI is your publication. If there is anything in particular that you would like to see in any future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. If you have any subjects relating to Yugoslav heritage or about Yugoslavs, here or abroad, that you would like to share or see published in this newsletter, please let us know. We would appreciate your input in publishing this newsletter each month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us:

Dale Skillicorn and
Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn
c/o Rapid Offset Printing
22 East Lake Avenue
Watsonville, CA 95076
(408) 724-2900

SUGGESTED TOPICS:

1. Trips by YACO members
2. Visitors from the Old Country
3. Newspaper or magazine articles about Yugoslavia or Yugoslavs, local or abroad
4. Weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, or special celebrations by YACO members
5. Civic or cultural contributions by Yugoslavs
6. Yugoslav recipes
7. Yugoslav songs, poetry & stories
8. Special family traditions for holidays, etc.
9. Yugoslav stories for children
10. Anything you think might be of interest to YACO members

NEW DEADLINE

A new DEADLINE has been set for the 10th of each month so that we might get the paper out even earlier. It seems that our members out of Watsonville are not receiving their KALIFORNSKI early enough to plan on attending any of our programs. Members in Watsonville receive their copies at least two days after mailing so it seems to be a problem with a hold up at the post office. If I don't have the information in time, I will not be able to publish it until the next issue. REMEMBER to send me any information by the 10th of each month.

BOARD of TRUSTEES

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